Plea in UN General Assembly against state sponsored terrorism

1242. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he pleaded at the recent 46th Session of the UN General Assembly against the State sponsored terrorism such as abetment to terrorism by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab; and

(b) if so, the response of the UN General Assembly and major member countries thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is growing concern about terrorism in the international community as evidenced in the discussions at the United Nations. The General Assembly has adopted a resolution on 'International terrorism' which, inter-alia, urges all States to prevent the preparation and organisation in their respective territories, of terrorists and subversive acts directed against other States and their citizens.

Cotton Production

1243. SHRI SHRAVAN KUMAR PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a sharp decline in cotton production this year;

(b) if so, the number of bales of cotton produced in the country during the current year and the comparative figures for the previous three years;

(c) the reasons for such sharp fall in cotton production; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure that cotton and cotton yarn are made available to handloom and powerloom weavers in adequate quantities and at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b). The estimated production of cotton in the country for the previous three years is as follows:-

Year	*Lakh bales of 170 kgs. each*
1988	87.44
1989-90(revised)	114.22
1990-91(final)	97.59

The final estimates of production of cotton for the current year i.e. 1991-92 have not yet become due from the States. However, as per the current assessment, the production of cotton during 1991-92 is expected to be higher than that of the year 1990-91.

(c) The fall in production of cotton during 1990-91, as compared to previous year, was on account of pest (heliothis attack at the flowering stage of the crop in the major growing districts of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan.

(d) Cotton is not used directly by Handloom and Powerloom weavers. Government has taken a number of corrective measures including suspending export of cotton yarn and by persuading the spinning mills in the Cooperative, Private and State Sectors to supply Hank yarn to Handloom weavers at pre-budget prices.

[*Translation*]

Treatment of Agriculture at par with Industry

1244. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
DR. VISWANTHAM KANITHI:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be